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February 21, 2007

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance convened on February 21, 2007, with Chairman Maryann Heuston presiding and Committee Members Aldermen Walter Pero, Dennis Sullivan and Robert Trane also present and voting. Also present were Alderman William White, Finance Director Ed Bean, Chief Assessor Richard Brescia and Michael Lambert from the Mayor's Office.

Mr. Brescia was questioned about his request for approval to retain outside counsel to defend valuations at the Appellate Tax Board and he told the members that the firm in question has been used in the past by the city, with favorable results.

Mr. Bean addressed the members regarding the request for an appropriation of \$400,000 to deal with the recent oil release at Somerville High School and said that the request was being withdrawn for the time being, as the city is not sure how it is going to finance the cleanup. Mr. Bean told the members that the Director of Purchasing is involved in the process and that the matter will be brought before the Board of Aldermen once everything is set.

The committee discussed matters before it and took action on the following 3 items:

182694: Communication from Chief Assessor - requesting approval to retain outside counsel for 3 years to defend valuations at the Appellate Tax Board.

RECOMMENDATION: Should be approved

VOTE: Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

182695: Communication from City Clerk - conveying his Local Official Bond.

RECOMMENDATION: Should be approved

VOTE: Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

182706: Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to expend a grant of \$16,193 from the MA Dept. of Public Health for the Health Dept's emergency preparedness planning.

RECOMMENDATION: Should be approved

VOTE: Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

Alderman Maryann Heuston, Chairman
Committee on Finance

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Finance,
February 21, 2007

In Board of Aldermen

Clerk